

Remarks

In the Office Action, claims 26-29 have been allowed and claims 2-4, 10, 13, 15, 18, 19, 21, 23, 31-33, 37, 39-48, and 56 indicated allowable. The remaining claims were indicated rejected.

In response, assignee places certain claims indicated allowable into independent format and adjusts and replicates dependent claims accordingly. Specifically, assignee has amended claims 2, 10, 18, 21, and 23 to place them into independent form and canceled claims 1 and 22 on which those claims formerly depended. With specific regard to claim 18, assignee notes that the element of the power source being removable and replaceable has not been deleted but rather inserted at the beginning of part (d) of the amended claim. Each of those claims (i.e., 2, 10, 18, 21, and 23) have been indicated allowable if placed in independent format and now should be allowed. Assignee respectfully requests the Examiner to verify that the claims now contain the combinations indicated allowable.

In addition, assignee has amended independent claim 30 by adding the element of former dependent claim 31, which was indicated allowable. Claim 31 has been canceled as unnecessary.

Assignee has also amended claims 3-5, 7, 11, 13, 16, 20, 25, 49, and 53-56 to depend on claim 2, which is being converted to independent form. In the case of claim 25, further amendments are presented for conforming language only. Assignee has amended claim 19 to depend on claim 18, which is being converted to independent form. Assignee has amended claim 24 to depend on claim 23, which is being converted to independent form.

Assignee has amended claim 15 to alter its dependency, merely as a matter of preference.

Assignee also presents new claims 57-75. Each of these are dependent claims that contain different combinations of elements previously included in one or more dependent claims already examined. Because assignee has turned four claims formerly dependent on claim 1 into independent format, it was necessary to replicate dependent claims because it was desired to include those features dependent on each of the four.

In view of the amendments, this application should be in condition for prompt allowance, and such action is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to reorder the claims to place all claims dependent on each independent claim in a position immediately following the claim on which they depend.

If the Examiner has any questions, please feel free to telephone assignee's undersigned attorney of record.

Respectfully submitted,

RAPID PROTOTYPES, INC.
by its attorney

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/Louis J. Hoffman/
Louis J. Hoffman
Reg. No. 38,918

LOUIS J. HOFFMAN, P.C.
11811 North Tatum Boulevard
Suite 2100
Phoenix, Arizona 85028
(480) 948-3295